

Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization for Common Activities

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

INTRODUCTION

Background:

The Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization for Common Activities, as provided for under s. 29.604 Wis. Stats., allows for the incidental taking (mortality) of certain endangered and threatened species that may occur as a result of activities occurring regularly across the landscape. The Department recognizes that these common activities are issued individual incidental take permits/authorizations with identical minimization and mitigation measures, and therefore is proposing to issue this broad incidental take permit (used by non-state agencies and individuals) and broad incidental take authorization (used by state agencies) to cover these regularly occurring activities.

An incidental take permit or authorization is typically issued on a project-by-project basis, however a broad incidental take permit/authorization (BITP/A) was created for this situation so that an application, permit fee and public notice period is not required for each individual project. An individual or organization covered by this permit or authorization (see *Coverage* below) is automatically covered.

Coverage:

This BITP/A for Common Activities includes the following common activities and associated species:

- A. Streambank Stabilization/Rip Rap:
 - 1. Blanchard's Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*)
 - 2. Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)
 - 3. Fish (all species)
- B. Stream Crossing:
 - 1. Blanchard's Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*)
 - 2. Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)
 - 3. Fish (all species)
- C. Pipeline Inspection/Maintenance
 - 1. Slender Glass Lizard

Process:

Any individual, organization or agency whose is proposing one of the above mentioned activities must compile a list of species likely to be present on site prior to conducting any on-the-ground disturbance. If the DNR is conducting, funding or approving the activity, this list will be created by DNR staff during the permit/approval/review process using the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) database. If the DNR is not conducting, funding or approving the activity, an Endangered Resources Review (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ERReview/Review.html>) should be submitted to the Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation (BNHC) to determine which, if any, species are present. Once this list is generated, potential to all rare species with the exception of the associated species listed in the *Coverage* section above must be addressed.

If this process is not followed, the property owner and/or project applicant are liable for any and all take that may occur.

Reporting:

Given the diverse nature of the activities and species to which the BITP/A for Common Activities may be applied, reporting will be required to monitor and verify the use and application of this Permit/Authorization. Reporting will be required of all individuals, organizations, and agencies that conduct projects covered under the BITP/A for Common Activities. This information will also be used for future amendments or modifications to the Permit/Authorization to ensure that it achieves its objectives and remains relevant to the covered activities and species.

Responsible parties must place documentation in the project file when the BITP/A for Common Activities is utilized and inform BNHC via email (DNRERReview@wisconsin.gov) at least one week prior to commencement of the proposed activity. A closing report must be submitted to BNHC documenting that their activities were performed in accordance with the specifications, definitions and conditions defined herein (see Appendix A). This closing report must be submitted to BNHC within 60 days of completion of project. Additional reporting may be required as identified in the individual activity/species protocols.

Please note that this BITP/A for Common Activities does not legally cover a project unless all reporting requirements listed above are met.